

Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections based upon the amendments above and the remarks below. By this paper, claims 12, 15, 19, and 21 have been amended and no claims have been cancelled. Annotated Figure 2 has been submitted to change reference numeral 18 to reference numeral 14.

Claims 1-7 and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Boyles in view of Rangan. Independent claims 1, 14, 19, and 21 correspond with this rejection. Applicant submits that each independent claim is patentable for the reasons set forth below.

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant submits that the references asserted by the Examiner fail to teach "a programming source for generating a programming signal for programming the transmitter for prohibiting operation of the remotely controlled component during at least one programmable period." The Examiner admits that Boyles fails to teach this limitation, but relies upon Rangan to make up for this deficiency of Boyles. Applicant submits that Rangan fails to make up for this deficiency of Boyles.

In particular, Rangan fails to disclose that time delay switch 245 is programmable. Rather, Rangan merely discloses time delay switch 245 is permanently configured with a predefined time interval that begins counting upon actuation of buttons 130, 135, and 140, as indicated in the portions of Rangan reproduced below.

A time delay switch 245 has three features. The first feature is an "authentication wait" 250, which requires the user, after correctly matching the security code 212, to pause for a predetermined time.

If the user presses the secured buttons 130, 135 or/and 140 before the "authentication wait" 250 time has expired, then code comparator 210 reverts to the unequal condition which shifts the system 200 into the disarmed mode 227, and then the user will not be able to use the buttons 130,

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135 and 140 to perform secured operations. Thus the "authentication wait" 250 time is another safeguard that prevents an unauthorized user from correctly "guessing" the code that matches the programmed security code 212 and in using the device.

After the "authentication wait" 250 time has expired, the system 200 shifts into an "armed mode" allowing the user to use buttons 130, 135 and 140 for performing secured operations such as locating the car or unlocking the car doors or trunk.

The time delay switch 245 also has an "armed duration" 249 feature, which allows the user only a predetermined period of time to press the buttons 130, 135 or/and 140 for performing the secured operations. After the "armed duration" 249 time period expires, the system 200 reverts to the disarmed mode 227 and the invention is then turned off (power-off state 260). The armed duration 249 feature provides additional security. For example, the user may have placed the invention in an armed mode while still at a distance from his/her secured car. If the user misplaces the invention prior to reaching his/her car and the "armed duration" 249 time period expires, then an unauthorized user who finds the device will not have access to the secured operations.

(Column 4, lines 5-45, emphasis added)

As described above, Rangan merely uses a time delay switch 245 to limit operation based upon a predefine time interval that begins counting with actuation of buttons 130, 135 and 140. The time delay switch 245 is not programmable. Moreover, the time delay switch 245 cannot receive a signal for programming its time interval. Accordingly, Rangan fails to disclose that a programming source generates a signal for programming the transmitter for prohibiting operation during at least one programmable period, as recited in independent claim 1.

Applicant submits that the above deficiency of Rangan renders claim 1 patentable over the combination of Boyles and Rangan. In addition, Applicant submits that claims 2-7 and 12-14 which depend therefrom are patentable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is patentable. In particular, with respect to claim 12, Applicants further point out that Rangan fails to disclose programming the transmitter for prohibiting operation during a programmable period which corresponds "to a time of day when employees are not supposed to access the vehicle," as recited in claim 12.

Independent claims 15 and 21 include limitations directed towards prohibiting operation during specific periods of a time of day. As described above, the combination of Boyles and Rangan fails to disclose such limitations. Accordingly, independent claims 15 and 21, and dependent claims 16-18 which depend from independent claim 15, are also patentable over the combination of Boyles and Rangan.

13 With respect to independent claim 19, the combination of Boyles and Rangan fails to disclose that the transmitter is programmed by a signal generate remotely "from the programmable transmitter for programming the transmitter to prohibit operation of the vehicle by the security system during at least one programmable period." The time delay switch 245 of Rangan does not receive any programming signals, let alone a programming signal originating from a source remotely located from the transmitter. Accordingly, independent claim 19 and dependent claim 20 which depends from independent claim 19, are patentable 20 over the combination of Boyles and Rangan.

Claims 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyles, Rangan, and Asano. The Examiner relies upon Asano to teach the use of a computer as programming source. Applicants submit this reliance upon Asano fails to make up for the above-identified deficiencies of Boyles and Rangan. Accordingly, dependent claims 8-11, which depend from patentable independent claim 1, are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

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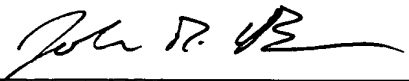
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Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections in light of the above amendments and remarks. The Examiner is invited to call the under signed attorney if it would further prosecution of this case. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

BARRY L. CAREN

By



John R. Buser

Reg. No. 51,517

Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Date: 12-22-03

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351

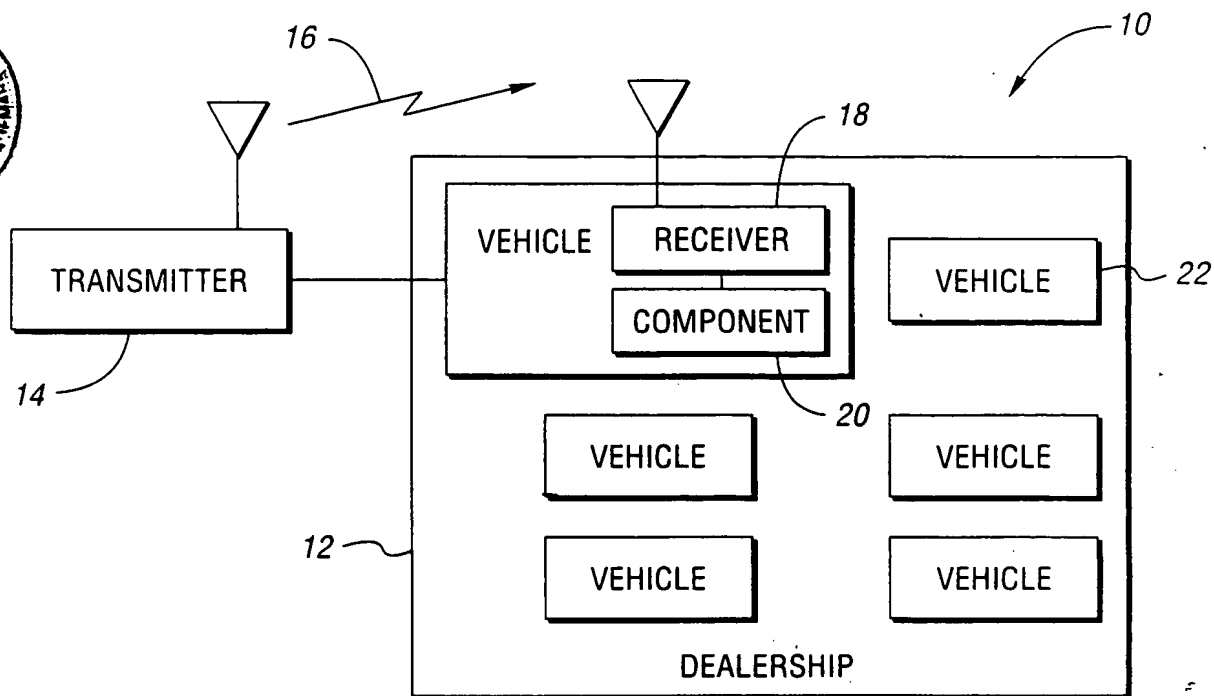
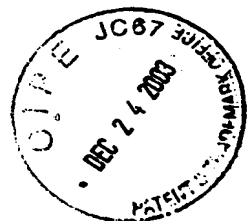


Fig. 1

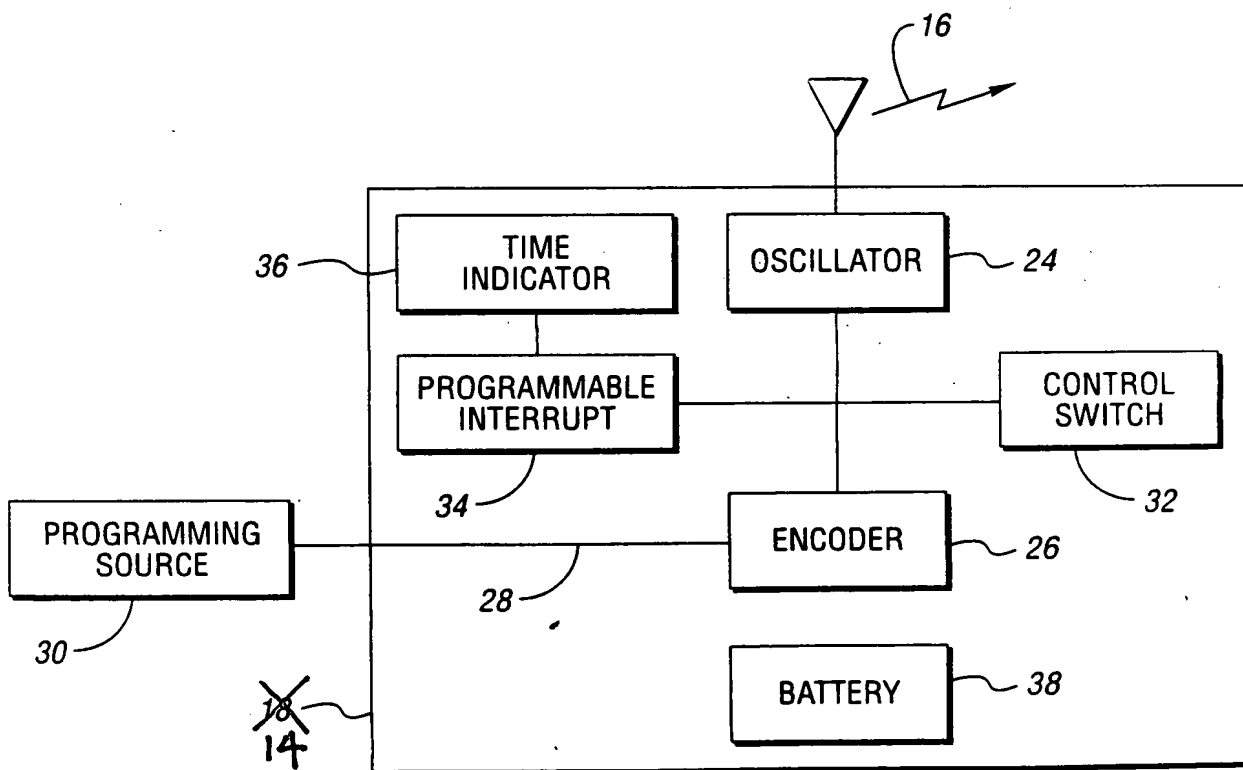


Fig. 2